

Brett Neely, Minnesota Public Radio

WASHINGTON - The House is currently debating a very long series of amendments to the defense authorization bill and four of Minnesota's eight House members have amendments that will be debated on the floor.

Here are some of the highlights:

8th District Republican freshman Chip Cravaack continues his campaign to eliminate government funding for the U.S. Institute of Peace

St. Paul DFLer Betty McCollum continues her campaign against military bands. Her amendment would limit spending on professional musicians in the military to just \$200 million a year, down from the current \$320 million.

DFL Rep. Keith Ellison's amendment would require the Secretary of Defense to present new war plans for Afghanistan in light of the recent death of Osama bin Laden.